



National Weather Service Tallahassee, Florida



In this update:

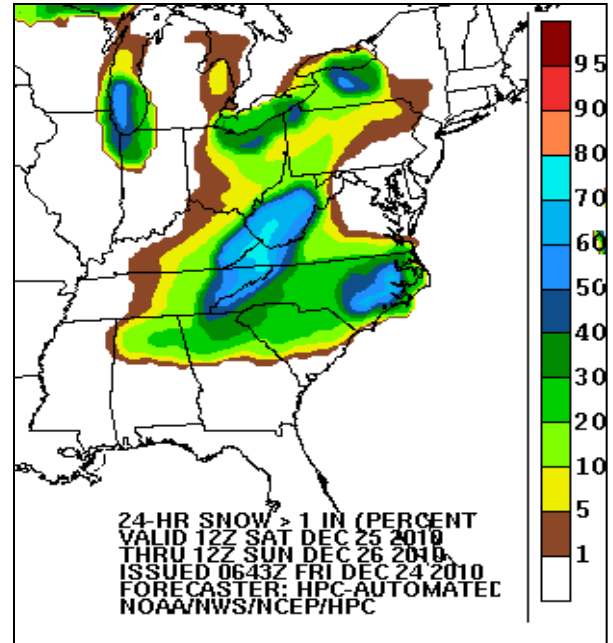
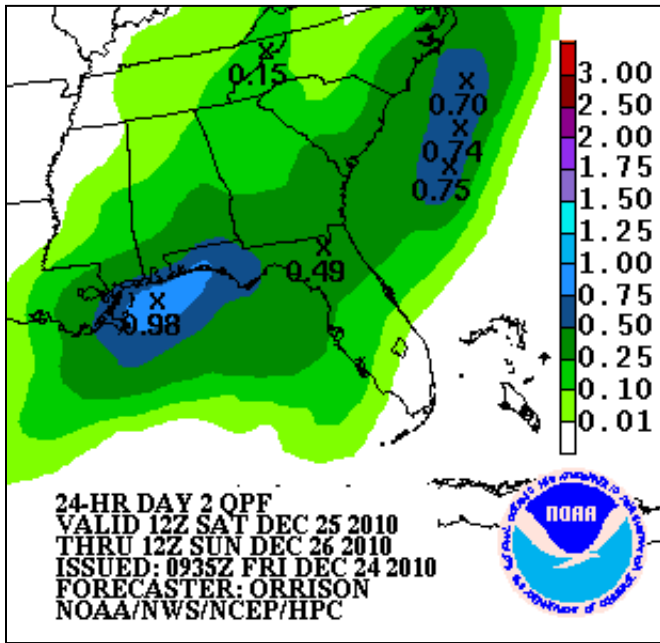
- Christmas weekend storm followed by extended cold outbreak into Wednesday morning.

Key Points for this event:

- Potent winter storm system will move rapidly across the region Christmas day, clearing the area early Sunday.
- 8-10 hours of cold, rain will begin in the western counties Saturday afternoon and spread eastward through the night, ending early Sunday morning.
- Models showing less chance of snow for the northern counties, however southeast AL into central GA should see **at least a mix of rain and snow (if not a brief change over to all snow)** before everything clears around sunrise.
- **Accumulating snows are still not expected in or near our region.**
- **Significant travel problems are still not anticipated.**
- Temperatures will begin falling Sunday with lows in the lower 20s/upper teens F Monday, Tuesday and perhaps Wednesday mornings. Afternoon highs will not get out of the 40s F Sunday and Monday.
- 10-15 mph winds Sunday and Monday will accentuate the cold and keep **wind chills in the 30s for northern counties Sunday. and dip into the teens everywhere Monday morning.**

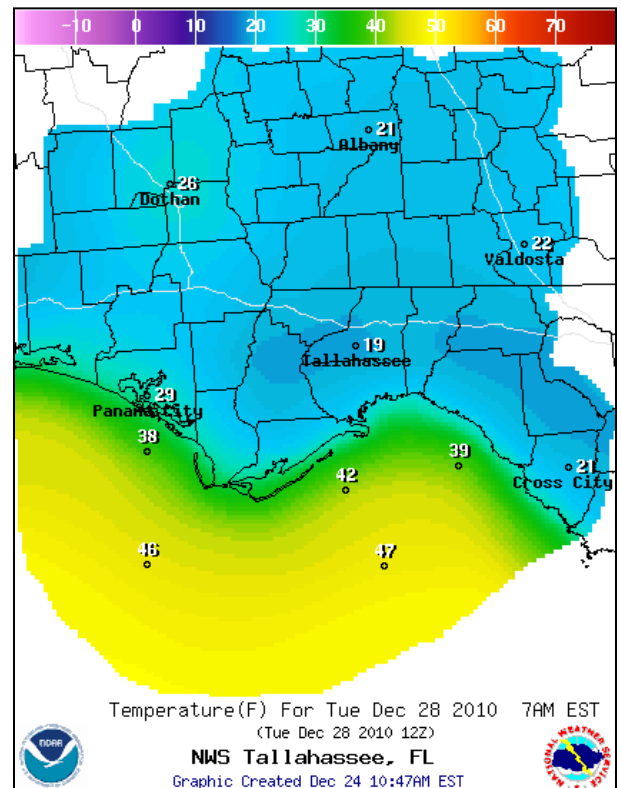
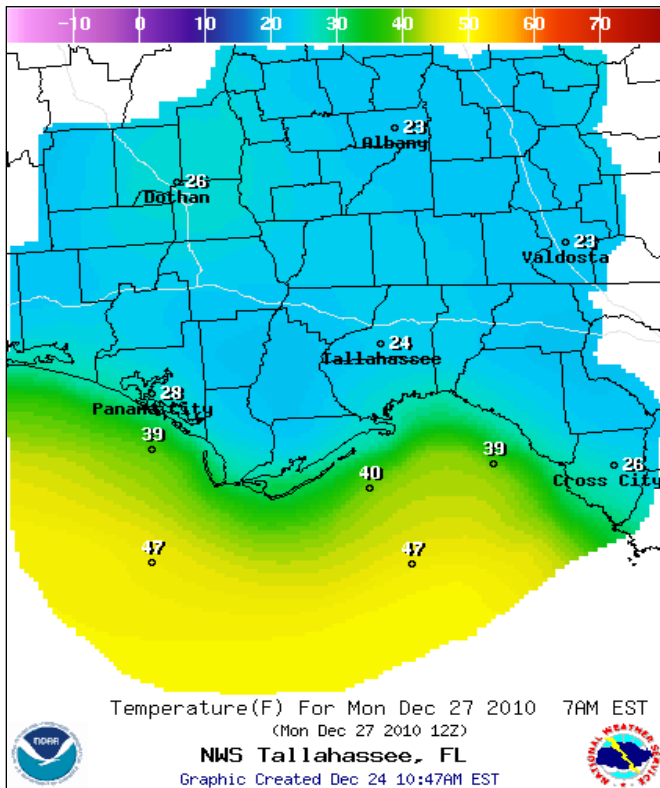
Forecasts have not changed significantly in the past 24 hours, with the exception that snow chances may actually be a bit lower for early Sunday morning. The low pressure system will begin organizing along the Gulf Coast tomorrow and race across northern FL and off the Carolina coast Sunday. Rain should begin to impact southeast AL/western FL panhandle around 1 pm EST, and begin in the eastern counties early Saturday evening by 6-7pm EST. The AL and central GA counties may still see a brief change over to a rain/snow mix or all snow early Sunday morning for a couple of hours at the end of the event. No accumulation or impacts from the snow are expected in our area, however accumulating snows may still occur in the higher terrain of northern GA and the western Carolinas. In the wake of this system, another intrusion of arctic air will plummet across the Southeast U.S. and bring much below normal temperatures into the middle of next week. Temperatures will likely be similar to what we experienced in the middle of December, with overnight lows in the upper teens/lower 20s F and afternoon highs in the 40s to lower 50s F. Brisk winds will accentuate the cold and dip wind chills into the lower teens into Sunday and Monday mornings. Wind chills Sunday afternoon may keep 'apparent temperatures' in the upper 30s for much of the day.





Total precipitation from Christmas morning through Sunday morning.

Percent chance of 1" or more snowfall.



Actual Temperature 7 am, Monday

Actual Temperature 7 am, Tuesday

Summary:

- **Another shot of arctic air is heading our way Saturday night into next week.**
- **A very cold rain event is likely across the whole region beginning Christmas afternoon in the western counties and spreading eastward, ending early Sunday.**
- **A change over to all snow or a rain/snow mix is likely across parts of AL and central/northern GA. No accumulations are expected.**
- **Primary impact from this system for our region will be the cold temperatures. Rain/snow is not expected to create significant travel problems.**

The National Weather Service in Tallahassee will continue to monitor this system closely today. If you have any questions, please give our office a call at 850-942-8833 or on our toll free line at 800-598-4562 and ask to speak to a meteorologist. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also reach us on our Southern Linc phone at 1*77*184.